

Message Text

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20/45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AF-10 IO-12 ACDA-19 EB-11 DOTE-00 COME-00

RSR-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /156 W
----- 021663

R 231009 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8525

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 4025

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y ADDEE ADDED

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 04025 240954 Z

SUBJECT: ITALIAN PROPOSAL ON MIDDLE EAST

REF : BRUSSELS 2712

1. ACTING DIRECTOR ARAN OF FIRST EUROPEAN DIV MFA TOLD EMBOFF MAY 21 THAT ISRAEL CONTINUES TO REGARD EC MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE VERY UNLIKELY. ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR MAJOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT SO NEBULOUS , ISRAELIS RULE OUT ITS CHANCES OF ACCEPTANCE. ACCORDING TO ARAN, ISRAELIS ARE INFORMED THAT ITALIAN PROPOSAL AS INVESTMENT PROPOSITION WOULD HAVE NO APPEAL TO EUROPEAN BANKERS, AND IN ISRAELI VIEW ITALIAN PROPOSAL AS POLITICAL PROPOSITION IS WITHOUT SUBSTANCE.
2. ARAN COMMENTED ITALIANS HAVE TO TAKE STAGE PERIODICALLY RE SUEZ CANAL REOPENING FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS, CANAL CLOSURE HAVING HURT SOUTHERN ITALIAN PORTS. BUT CLOSURE HAD NOT REALLY HURT REST OF WESTERN EUROPEAN. ITALIAN IDEA OF LARGE NEW SUEZ CANAL OR ENLARGEMENT OF EXISTING CANAL TO ACCOMMODATE SUPERTANKERS (ROME 3633 NOTAL) ALSO UNFEASIBLE, ARAN STATED; TOLLS WOULD HAVE TO BE SO HIGH TO COVER NEW CONSTRUCTION, IT WOULD BE CHEAPER TO CONTINUE SENDING SUPERTANKERS AROUND CAPE. ZURHELLEN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: boyleja
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: n/a
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980226
Subject: ITALIAN PROPOSAL ON MIDDLE EAST
TAGS: PFOR, IT, XF, EEC
To: ANKARA
BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
HELSINKI
MOSCOW
NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC

VIENNA

Type: TE

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